



Message from David Schemm, Kansas State Executive Director (SED)

Summer is flying by as everyone has been busy planting and harvesting and of course getting ready for the County Fair season. The wheat harvest has been stretched out with delays by the rain, but I remain hopeful that the rainfall will contribute to a great fall harvest and green pastures.

FSA staff are busy as the final crop acreage reporting deadline of July 15, 2025, approaches. Be sure to make an appointment with your local FSA office, if you haven't already.

FSA County Committee election season continues. If your local administrative area is holding an election this year, the deadline for submitting a nomination is **August. 1**. County Committees are important as they oversee the functions of county FSA offices and provide input on programming and local agricultural issues. For more information on this opportunity, read the article below and contact your local FSA office.

Additionally, FSA is rolling out a suite of Supplemental Disaster Assistance programs. Here's a quick rundown:

- The **Emergency Commodity Assistance Program (ECAP)** sign-up runs through Aug. 15, 2025. ECAP payments are based on your 2024 planted and prevented planted acres. In Kansas, we have already approved close to 50,923 applications, so this is a reminder to those who haven't submitted their application.
- The **Emergency Livestock Relief Program (ELRP)** for Drought and Wildfire provides assistance for losses due to drought or wildfires in 2023 or 2024. Payments have already been issued for producers who have an approved Livestock Forage Disaster

Program application on file for those years. A second round of ELRP will be announced soon for producers impacted by flooding.

- The **Supplemental Disaster Relief Program** (SDRP) will provide assistance to producers with revenue, quality or production losses due to weather-related events in 2023 and 2024. For producers with indemnified losses, sign-up opens July 10.

Our Farm Loan Program staff are also busy making and servicing loans for our producers across the state.

Like all of you I have been busy, but luckily, I have been able to spend some weekends on the farm, to enjoy some time on the tractor and more importantly time with my family. I encourage all of you to remember through these busy times that the most important thing is the family, friends and neighbors around us. Make sure to take the time and spend with them and make those precious memories.

David Schemm

State Executive Director, Kansas FSA

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July 15, 2025: 2025 Crop Acreage Report Deadline

July 15, 2025: NAP 2024 Production Records for Yield Based Crops

August 1, 2025: COC Nominations Close

August 15, 2025: ECAP Deadline

September 1, 2025: NAP Small Grain Application for Coverage

Eligibility for Nominations for the 2025 County Committee Elections

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA and allow grassroots input and local administration of federal farm programs.

Committees are comprised of locally elected agricultural producers responsible for the fair and equitable administration of FSA farm programs in their counties. Committee members are accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture. If elected, members become part of a local decision-making and farm program delivery process.



A county committee is composed of 3 to 11 elected members from Local Administrative Areas (LAA). Each member serves a three-year term. To be eligible for nomination and hold office as a committee member or alternate, a person must fulfill each of the following requirements:

1. Be eligible to vote in an FSA county committee election*.
2. Reside in the LAA that is up for election.
3. Must not have been:
 - a. Removed or disqualified from:
 - i. FSA county committee membership or alternate membership, or
 - ii. FSA employment.
 - b. Removed for cause from any public office or have been convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement or any other felony.
 - c. Dishonorably discharged from any branch of the armed services.

*The following requirements must be met for a person to be eligible to vote in the county committee elections:

- Be of legal voting age or, if not of legal voting age, supervise and conduct the farming operation of an entire farm.
- Have an interest in a farm or ranch as either:
 - An individual who meets one or more of the following:
 - Is eligible and capable to vote in one's own right.
 - Is a partner of a general partnership.
 - Is a member of a joint venture.
 - Is an authorized representative of a legal entity.

- Participates or cooperates in any FSA program that is provided by law. A cooperating producer is someone who has provided information about their farming or ranching operation(s) but may not have applied or received FSA program benefits.

All nomination forms for the 2025 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by Aug. 1, 2025. For more information on FSA county committee elections, including fact sheets, nomination forms and FAQs, visit fsa.usda.gov/elections

USDA Microloans Help Farmers Purchase Farmland and Improve Property

Farmers can use USDA farm ownership microloans to buy and improve property. These microloans are especially helpful to beginning or underserved farmers, U.S. veterans looking for a career in farming, and those who have small and mid-sized farming operations. Microloans have helped farmers and ranchers with operating costs, such as feed, fertilizer, tools, fencing, equipment, and living expenses since 2013.

Microloans can also help with farmland and building purchases and soil and water conservation improvements. FSA designed the expanded program to simplify the application process, expand eligibility requirements and expedite smaller real estate loans to help farmers strengthen their operations. Microloans provide up to \$50,000 to qualified producers and can be issued to the applicant directly from the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA).

To learn more about the FSA microloan program, contact your USDA Service Center or visit fsa.usda.gov/microloans.

Communication Is Key in Lending

Farm Service Agency (FSA) is committed to providing our farm loan borrowers the tools necessary to be successful. FSA staff will provide guidance and counsel from the loan application process through the borrower's graduation to commercial credit. While it is FSA's commitment to advise borrowers as they identify goals and evaluate progress, it is crucial for borrowers to communicate with their farm loan staff when changes occur. It is the borrower's responsibility to alert FSA to any of the following:

- Any proposed or significant changes in the farming operation
- Any significant changes to family income or expenses
- The development of problem situations

- Any losses or proposed significant changes in security

If a farm loan borrower can't make payments to suppliers, other creditors, or FSA on time, contact your farm loan staff immediately to discuss loan servicing options.

For more information on FSA farm loan programs, contact your USDA Service Center or fsa.usda.gov.

Obtaining Payments Due to Deceased Producers

In order to claim a Farm Service Agency (FSA) payment on behalf of a deceased producer, all program conditions for the payment must have been met before the applicable producer's date of death.

If a producer earned an FSA payment prior to his or her death, the following is the order of precedence for the representatives of the producer:

- administrator or executor of the estate
- the surviving spouse
- surviving sons and daughters, including adopted children
- surviving father and mother
- surviving brothers and sisters
- heirs of the deceased person who would be entitled to payment according to the State law

For FSA to release the payment, the legal representative of the deceased producer must file a form FSA-325 to claim the payment for themselves or an estate. The county office will verify that the application, contract, loan agreement, or other similar form requesting payment issuance, was signed by the applicable deadline by the deceased or a person legally authorized to act on their behalf at that time of application.

If the application, contract or loan agreement form was signed by someone other than the deceased participant, FSA will determine whether the person submitting the form has the legal authority to submit the form.

Payments will be issued to the respective representative's name using the deceased program participant's tax identification number. Payments made to representatives are subject to offset regulations for debts owed by the deceased.

FSA is not responsible for advising persons in obtaining legal advice on how to obtain program benefits that may be due to a participant who has died, disappeared or who has been declared incompetent.

Update Your Records

FSA is cleaning up our producer record database and needs your help. Please report any changes of address, zip code, phone number, email address or an incorrect name or business name on file to our office. You should also report changes in your farm operation, like the addition of a farm by lease or purchase. You should also report any changes to your operation in which you reorganize to form a Trust, LLC or other legal entity.

FSA and NRCS program participants are required to promptly report changes in their farming operation to the County Committee in writing and to update their *Farm Operating Plan* on form CCC-902.

To update your records, contact your USDA Service Center or fsa.usda.gov

Producer Compliance Responsibilities for NAP Coverage on Mechanically Harvested Forage

The Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops, including mechanically harvested forage with NAP coverage, to protect against natural disasters that occur during the coverage, resulting in loss of production, loss of value, or prevented planting of an eligible crop.

If you have NAP coverage on mechanically harvested forage, you must:

- Maintain separate production records for each unit, crop, practice, crop type, and intended use.
- Submit production records to FSA by the designated production reporting date for the crop.
- Notify your FSA administrative county office before grazing, abandoning, or destroying forage acreage reported, on FSA form FSA-578, as intended to be mechanically harvested; and request an appraisal.
- Notify your FSA administrative county office of a loss and timely file CCC-576, *Notice of Loss and Application for Payment*, Part B, the earlier of:

- 15 calendar days after the disaster occurs, or damage first becomes apparent.
 - 15 calendar days after the crop's normal harvest date.
- If you change your intended use or experience a loss during the coverage period, you must:
 - Establish and maintain representative sample areas when an appraisal of the acreage is required.
 - Inform your FSA administrative county office of the location of representative sample areas within 15 days of placing the panels.
 - Request an appraisal of the representative sample areas at the end of harvest period but before first freeze.

For more information on NAP and NAP compliance requirements you must follow to retain NAP coverage, contact your [local USDA service center](#).

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[Kansas FSA State Office](#)

[Kansas County Office Committee Meeting Dates](#)

[Service Center Locator](#)

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